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LETTER DATED 28 APRIL 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea dated 28 April 1994.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) PAK Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement dated 28 April 1994 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The illegalities by the United States violating the Korean Armistice Agreement and paralyzing the armistice supervisory mechanism have recently reached a climax.

The United States wrecked a third round of Democratic People's Republic of Korea-United States of America talks when there emerged prospects of resolving the issues with respect to Democratic People's Republic of Korea-United States relations satisfactorily, and now is massively deploying its armed forces on and around the Korean peninsula.

Despite the unanimous rejection by our people and the world public, the United States reportedly intends to go ahead defiantly with its plans for shipping new Patriot-type missiles into south Korea for their combat-ready emplacement by the end of April forcibly to conduct "Team Spirit 94" joint military exercises, a nuclear war game, in November this year.

The United States has already beefed up its air fleet in south Korea with a squadron of Apache helicopters, and is reported to be planning to introduce various types of brigade-size combat armaments in the future.

On the other hand, the United States naval forces, which have clustered around the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, still stand by there, far from breaking up. Thus, the United States has revealed through its own actions that it has scrapped completely the Korean Armistice Agreement, which was signed by the United States in the name of the United Nations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The fundamental requirements for maintaining the armistice arrangement are non-introduction of any operational material from abroad and cessation of an arms build-up on the Korean peninsula, which is now in a state of cease-fire. This notwithstanding, the United States has unilaterally broken the provisions of the Korean Armistice Agreement all along ever since the very year when it signed the Agreement in July 1953, and introduced into south Korea up-to-date military hardware including over 1,000 nuclear weapons.

It was at least for fear of a possible exposure of its intentional violations of the Korean Armistice Agreement that the United States had previously engaged in the camouflaged and clandestine introduction of an enormous quantity of its nuclear weapons and other armaments into south Korea, but these days the United States is shipping in and deploying its sophisticated missiles and combat technical equipment openly and in broad daylight.

This vividly shows that the United States has disowned the effectiveness of the Korean Armistice Agreement and even ignores its existence.

Over a period of a little more than four decades, the United States has acted against its own obligations as the real party to the Armistice Agreement, not only violating and invalidating the provisions of the Agreement systematically but also paralyzing the armistice supervisory mechanism.

In the years that followed the conclusion of the Armistice Agreement, the United States violated the Agreement. As its own violations of the Agreement were detected and disclosed by the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, the United States unilaterally forced the Inspection Teams to withdraw from the United Nations Command-controlled area in June 1956, although the Inspection Teams were established pursuant to section C of article II of the Armistice Agreement.

Moreover, the United States caused the armistice mechanism to malfunction in March 1991 when it designated a south Korean army "general" as the chief delegate of the United Nations Command to the Military Armistice Commission, for which he is totally disqualified because of the legal irrelevance of this action to the Armistice Agreement.

Such unreasonable behaviour on the part of the United States has now turned the Korean Armistice Agreement into blank sheets of paper incapable of helping to ensure peace on the Korean peninsula and reduce the Military Armistice Commission to a de facto nominal and inoperative body in which its legitimate component parties have ceased to exist.

So far, the United States has systematically undermined the provisions of the Armistice Agreement, and is now threatening the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by force, while deploying its massive reinforcements on and around the Korean peninsula. Such actions only add greater clarity to the United States ulterior intent to strangle the Socialist countries in Asia, including the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The current reality is that, while the United States is acting unchallenged in shipping its armed forces and armaments into south Korea and in aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war at its discretion, the Armistice Agreement has proven itself so ineffective and helpless that it cannot play any role as an institutional mechanism established to prevent these actions.

This situation poses the question of what purposes the Armistice Agreement or the armistice mechanism is intended to serve. It is quite natural that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea will no longer entertain any expectations of the Korean Armistice Agreement and armistice mechanism, now that they have failed to live up to their responsibility for stabilizing the situation on the Korean peninsula and curbing the military build-up there and they have been used for covering up the United States policy of strangling the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It is only thanks to the patient and peace-loving policy and will pursued by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that the armistice has so far stayed in place and peace has been maintained on the Korean peninsula.

A number of complicated and acute problems, including the nuclear issue, have cropped up on the Korean peninsula today owing to the persistence of the armistice arrangement, under which the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States, as the real parties to the Armistice Agreement, are the parties to hostilities. It is abnormal, on every account, that the state of cease-fire of the 1950s should have lasted unchanged for four decades to date.

All the developments on the Korean peninsula highlight the absolute necessity for establishing a peace arrangement that will replace both the Armistice Agreement and the present armistice mechanism, with a view to achieving non-hostile relations and rapprochement between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States and to establishing genuine peace and security on the Korean peninsula.

In this connection, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposes to the United States that the two countries hold negotiations for the establishment of a new peace arrangement that will help to prevent an arms build-up or the recurrence of war, stabilize the situation and reliably guarantee durable peace and security on the Korean peninsula on a practical basis.

The United States must renounce its confrontation-oriented concept and war psychology and respond to the above peace proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.